DECLASSIFIED

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 26, 1953

I left at 7:45 this morning for Marcel Boussac's place fifty kilometres beyond Montargis. His little château, Mi-Voisin, was once the hunting lodge of Admiral Gaspard de Cologny. He has added considerably to it but has preserved faithfully the original architectural tradition. The result is entirely beautiful. There is an air of simplicity about the establishment, in spite of its magnificent green houses filled with rare orchids and other flowers in which Madame Boussac takes a keen interest. He has about 10,000 acres of land, well kept but mediocre from an agricultural standpoint. He personally attends to all the details of the shooting and does it admirably. Arthur Granard, Flandin, and eight other Frenchmen, most of whom I had known before, were there. The weather was spring-like and we had a wonderful day's sport, killing about 245 pieces. There were twenty partridges in this lot and the rest of the bag was constituted mostly of pheasants and a few hares. I shot a large fox, a praiseworthy proceeding since in this part of the country they are the most destructive enemies of game birds. Since the rabbit disease has more or less exterminated the object of their depredations, foxes have turned their attention to devouring pheasants and partridges.

We had a light lunch at 11:00 o'clock and an elaborate, delicious dinner at 9:00 tonight, starting with marvelous blinis, the famous Russian dish of pancakes, sour cream and caviar.

I had a long talk alone with Monsieur Boussac about the European Army. He brought up the question of what would happen if, once Germany were reunited, the then compact nation should decide to withdraw from the EDC. This is a difficult question to answer since it relates back to the contention on this same point raised at the London meeting preceding the Lisbon conference. At that time it was so difficult of resolution that the language regarding it was

DECLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CEC DATE 7-1-81
EXEMPTION(S) DATE
AUTH: ASCH(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐

DECLASSIFIED

left obscure. Boussac favors, as he had told me in a previous conversation, the admission of Germany to NATO under provisions not outstandingly discriminatory but which would have the effect of subjecting it to a vague measure of control. I do not think his plan would be acceptable to the German Federal Government. I told him that in my opinion the United States Government would consider no new suggestions until the French Parliamenthad voted definitely yes or no on the EDC.

Granard told me some interesting thing about our fellow guest, Pierre Etienne Flandin, who was deprived of his civil rights on the ground of collaboration with the Germans during the war. Granard was the go-between for the British with Flandin when the latter was a Minister at Vichy. He says his cooperation in this connection was most helpful, and Churchill was so grateful for it that he intervened on three occasions with de Gaulle to spare Flandin, but without effect.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY IEe DATE 7-1-81
or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

CONFIDENTIAL